

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION
U.S. Serial No. 10/626,133

REMARKS

Assignee and the undersigned attorney thank Examiner Negron for his review of this patent application and the indication that claims 22-24, 26, and 27 are allowed and claims 6 and 28 include allowable subject matter. Claims 1-9 and 21-30 were previously pending. Claims 1, 2, and 6 are amended above, and claims 25 and 28 are cancelled. Assignee respectfully requests reconsideration of pending claims 1-9, 21, 29, and 30.

The Action objected to claims 6 and 28 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but indicated that claims 6 and 28 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 6 is amended above to put it in independent form, and Assignee submits that claim 6 should now be allowed. Claim 28, which depended from claim 1, is cancelled, and claim 1 is amended above to include the allowable subject matter of claim 28. Therefore, claim 1 should also be allowed. Claims 2-5, 7-9, 29, and 30 all ultimately depend from claim 1 and thereby include the limitations of claim 1, and thus claims 2-5, 7-9, 29, and 30 should be allowed for at least such dependencies.

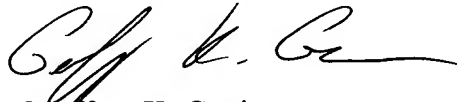
For the above reasons, Assignee believes all of claims 1-9, 21-24, 26, 27, 29, and 30 are now in condition for allowance, and allowance of these claims is respectfully requested. The foregoing is submitted as a full and complete response to the Office Action mailed June 27, 2006. The preceding arguments in favor of patentability are advanced without prejudice to other bases of patentability. If the Examiner believes there are any issues that can be

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resolved via a telephone conference, or there are any informalities that can be corrected by an Examiner's amendment, please call Geoffrey Gavin at (404) 815-6046.

The undersigned attorney believes no fees are due for this submission; however, the Commissioner is authorized to debit deposit account no. 11-0855 to the extent necessary if fees are due.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Geoffrey K. Gavin', written in a cursive style.

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